

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 01775 102248Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00
USIE-00 PRS-01 SY-05 USSS-00 AID-05 CPR-01 /057 W
-----080258 102251Z /64/47

O R 091550Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5053
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSYPORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1775

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y PARA 3 AUG 12 VICE MAY 12

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP(YOUNG, ANDREW) GY
SUBJECT: ILLNESS OF PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM

1. FOREIGN MINISTER WILLIS CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE EARLY
THIS MORNING (AUGUST 9) TO SAY THAT PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM
WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HOST A LUNCH SCHEDULED FOR AMBASSADOR
YOUNG AND HIS PARTY. BURNHAM WAS SICK AND ALTHOUGH HE
WOULD HAVE HIS TALK WITH THE AMBASSADOR HE WOULD NOT BE
STRONG ENOUGH TO HOST THE LUNCHEON. ACCORDINGLY, FOREIGN
MINISTER WILLIS WOULD HOST THE LUNCHEON AT THE GEORGETOWN
CLUB.

2. MY INITIAL SUSPICION WAS THAT THIS WAS A "DIPLOMATIC
ILLNESS" BROUGHT ON BY THE PRESSURE OF THE OPPOSITION,
PRIMARILY ITS CHARGES THAT THE GOVERNMENT DURING RECENT
MONTHS HAS TURNED SHARPLY TO THE RIGHT. HOWEVER, FROM
LISTENING TO PHONE CALLS WILLIS RECEIVED FROM OTHER
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MINISTERS DURING MY PRESENCE IT BECAME CLEAR THAT
THE ILLNESS IS REAL.

3. WE WERE AWARE THAT BURNHAM HAD ACQUIRED DIARRHEA
DURING HIS VISIT TO HAVANA BUT HAD ASSUMED THAT THAT
HAD PASSED. WILLIS NOW SAID THAT THE IMMEDIATE
PROBLEM WAS EXHAUSTION AND HIS HEART, BUT THAT THE

CONTINUING DIARRHEA HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THIS. GUYANA'S
DESPERATE ECONOMIC SITUATION AND PREPARATIONS FOR
THE BIENNIAL CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL
CONGRESS BEGINNING AUG 12 HAD PUT BURNHAM UNDER
HEAVY PRESSURE AND A FRANTIC PACE.
BLACKEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GEORGE01775
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770305-1337, D770286-0417
Format: TEL
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770883/aaaacrvj.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3cfbdc5f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1666549
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILLNESS OF PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM
TAGS: OVIP, GY, US, (YOUNG, ANDREW), (YOUNG, ANDREW J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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